



CONGRESSMAN HENRY A. WAXMAN NEWS

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WAXMAN DENOUNCES SOVIET MANEUVERS

Congressman Henry A. Waxman (D-Los Angeles) expressed "shock and deep concern" over the massive military maneuvers currently being conducted by the Soviet Union. Waxman said the exercises which involve approximately 100,000 Russian troops must be interpreted as "an effort to influence internal Polish affairs by military means."

"These air, land and sea maneuvers along the Polish borders are designed to intimidate the leadership and members of Poland's one-year-old union movement, Solidarity. The maneuvers are no less a Soviet crackdown on a satellite country than were the invasions of Hungary in 1956 and Czechoslovakia in 1968."

Waxman also condemned what he called a "gross and unprecedented violation of the Helsinki Accord." Waxman said the Soviets failed to give the United States and other Western countries proper advance notice of the scope and strength of the maneuvers as required by the Helsinki treaty.

"The Soviet Union's heavy-handed tactics in dealing with Poland are going to make it even harder for me and others like me to work effectively for authentic detente. We need the honest collaboration between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. on nuclear arms limitation on which the very survival of the world may depend. The Soviets are making such collaboration impossible."

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